

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: KINO, et al

Serial No.: Rule 1.53(b) Divisional of U.S. Patent  
Application 09/663,795, filed September 18,  
2000

Filed: Herewith

For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING L-AMINO ACIDS BY  
FERMENTATION

Group of Parent: 1651

Examiner of Parent: H. Lilling

3/a  
HQS  
3/5/02

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 21, 2001

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application, prior to  
examination thereof, as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

On the title page, delete the abstract.

Page 1, before line 1 "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION",  
insert the following:

-CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

a' This application is a Divisional Application of  
Application Serial No. 09/663,795 filed September 18, 2000. --